



BUDGET

- ◆ On Thursday, March 26th, **the Saeima supported amendments to the National Defence Financing Law in its final reading, which mean national defence spending must be equivalent to at least 5% of gross domestic product (GDP) every year from 2027.** (Mar 26, [Saeima](#) (only in Latvian))

MACROECONOMICS

- ◆ The data of the Central Statistical Bureau (CSB) show that **in February 2026, compared to February 2025, the average level of consumer prices increased by 2.3 %.** Compared to January 2026, in February 2026 the average level of consumer prices increased by 0.2 %. (Mar 10, [CSB](#))
- ◆ Provisional data of CSB show that in **January 2026 Latvia had foreign trade turnover of EUR 3.32 billion (at current prices 7.5 % lower than a year ago)**, of which value of exported goods reduced by 6.6 % and of imported goods by 8.3 %. Compared to the previous month, the exports value went up by 3.9 %, but the imports value went down by 5.7 %. (Mar 12, [CSB](#))
- ◆ Calendar adjusted data (at constant prices) compiled by CSB show that, compared to February 2025, **in February 2026 total retail trade turnover rose by 4.3 %.** Retail trade in food products remained unchanged. Retail trade in non-food products (except for retail sale of automotive fuel) rose by 6.7 %, but turnover of retail sale of automotive fuel – by 6.2 %. (Mar 27, [CSB](#))

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